

HOUSE No. 3422

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, petition of William M. Straus and others relative to the leasing of publicly-owned land for agricultural purposes. Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

William M. Straus	John W. Scibak
James B. Eldridge	Thomas J. O'Brien
J. James Marzilli, Jr.	

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE LEASING OF PUBLICLY-OWNED LAND FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 16 of chapter 30B of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding the following paragraph:—
3 (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of section twelve of this
4 chapter, and further notwithstanding any contrary provision of any
5 law or the provisions of any charter, a state, regional or municipal
6 government entity may enter into leases for the rental of conserva-
7 tion land for agricultural purposes, or other municipally-owned or
8 otherwise publicly-owned land for agricultural purposes, subject
9 to the approval, in the case of municipally-owned land, of the city
10 council or board of selectmen or town council in towns with a
11 town council form of government and with the consent of the
12 board or agency with jurisdiction over said lands, for a lease
13 period not to exceed ten years if the lessor demonstrates to the sat-
14 isfaction of said board or agency and the city council or board of
15 selectmen or town council in towns with a town council form of
16 government that a significant capital investment has been or will
17 be made by the lessor for the purposes of increasing the produc-
18 tivity and agricultural value of said land.